

Why

# EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

## for Intergenerational Poverty

We are focusing on four key areas to address the needs of Utah children at risk of living in poverty as adults. **EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT** is one of the areas of focus influencing a child's well-being.

### Here's what you need to know

about people experiencing intergenerational poverty:

#### critical brain development starts early

- Key development happens in the first three years of a child's life, and often takes place in the home
- Children in stressful home environments frequently demonstrate impairments in cognitive, behavioral and social development
- Children in low-income homes hear far fewer vocabulary words than their more affluent peers resulting in a word gap that often remains as they enter kindergarten



the first

3 years  
are key

#### supporting outcomes for SUCCESS

- Support new parents
- Ensure young children are on the path to healthy development
- Prioritize placement of young children in high quality, safe and developmentally appropriate settings
- Prepare young children to enter kindergarten

Why

# EDUCATION MATTERS

## for Intergenerational Poverty



We are focusing on four key areas to address the needs of Utah children at risk of living in poverty as adults. **EDUCATION** is one of the areas of focus influencing a child's future economic prospects.

## Here's what you need to know

about people experiencing intergenerational poverty:

### attendance matters

- Regular attendance leads to better academic performance
- Children generally have higher chronic absences
- Frequent moves can lead to poor academic outcomes

41%

of children moved at least once in 2013

### Children underperform in

Reading & Math

### academic achievement

- Academic achievement is a key indicator of future success
- Children underperform on two key benchmarks—third grade reading proficiency and eighth grade math proficiency

- Graduation from high school is vital for economic success

50%

of students graduated in 2012, compared to 80% for the overall student population

### supporting outcomes for SUCCESS

- Connect children to full day kindergarten where available
- Develop reading programs
- Evaluate barriers to attendance
- Address frequent moves of families
- Engage parents in the educational outcomes of their children

Why

# HEALTH MATTERS

## for Intergenerational Poverty



We are focusing on four key areas to address the needs of Utah children at risk of living in poverty as adults. **HEALTH** is one of the areas of focus influencing a child's well-being.

## Here's what you need to know

about people experiencing intergenerational poverty:

### lasting effects of mistreatment

- Mistreatment of children impacts brain development, nervous system, and immune system and often leads to psychological and emotional problems
- Child abuse and neglect may lead to alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, and criminal activity as children get older
- Nearly 28% of adults today were victims of abuse or neglect as children
  - 38% of these adults have committed acts of abuse
- 26% of children have been victims of abuse and neglect, compared to 1.5% for Utah's overall child population

26%

of children were abuse victims



proper nutrition

- 90% of K-12 are enrolled in Free or Reduced Lunch

90%

or more of children receive food stamps

### supporting outcomes for SUCCESS

- Meet nutritional needs of children at home and at school
- Access to mental health care
- Help families understand importance of good oral health

### Healthcare utilization

- Only 16 percent of children received mental health services in 2013
- Only 45 percent of children saw a dentist in 2013 compared to 79 percent of Utah children

Why

# ECONOMIC STABILITY MATTERS

## for Intergenerational Poverty

We are focusing on four key areas to address the needs of Utah children at risk of living in poverty as adults. **ECONOMIC STABILITY** is one of the areas of focus influencing a child's well-being.

### Here's what you need to know

about people experiencing intergenerational poverty:

#### education matters

- Adults have lower levels of educational attainment, which leads to weaker attachment to the labor force and wages insufficient to meet the basic needs of their families
- In 2013, the average wage for adults was \$10,701—roughly one fourth of the \$41,064 average wage for all Utahns

29%

of adults worked the entire year in 2013

\$10k

average adult wage in 2013

74%

of adults lack an education beyond high school

#### supporting outcomes for SUCCESS



- Connect families to:
  - education
  - job training
  - job search programs

Four

# KEY AREAS that impact Intergenerational Poverty

We are focusing on four key areas to address the needs of Utah children at risk of living in poverty as adults.

Here's what you need to know about people experiencing intergenerational poverty:

## EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

### Critical brain development starts early

- Key development happens in the first three years of a child's life, and often takes place in the home
- Children in stressful home environments frequently demonstrate impairments in cognitive, behavioral and social development
- Children in low-income homes hear far fewer vocabulary words than their more affluent peers resulting in a word gap that often remains as they enter kindergarten

### Outcomes for success

- Support new parents
- Ensure young children are on the path to healthy development
- Prioritize placement of young children in high quality, safe and developmentally appropriate settings
- Prepare young children to enter kindergarten

the first

3 years  
are key



## EDUCATION:

### Attendance matters

- Regular attendance leads to better academic performance
- Children generally have higher chronic absences
- 41% of children moved at least once in 2013—frequent moves can lead to poor academic outcomes

### Academic Achievement

- Academic achievement is a key indicator of future success
- Children underperform on two key benchmarks—third grade reading proficiency and eighth grade math proficiency
- Graduation from high school is vital for economic success—Only half of students graduated in 2012, compared to roughly 80% for the overall student population

### Outcomes for success

- Connect children to full day kindergarten where available
- Develop reading programs
- Evaluate barriers to attendance
- Address frequent moves of families
- Engage parents in the educational outcomes of their children

UTAH JUVENILE COURTS



UTAH DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH

## HEALTH:

### Lasting effects of mistreatment

- Mistreatment of children impacts brain development, nervous system, and immune system and often leads to psychological and emotional problems
- Child abuse and neglect may lead to alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, and criminal activity as children get older
- Nearly 28% of adults were victims of abuse or neglect as children—38% of have committed acts of abuse
- 26% of children have been victims of abuse and neglect, compared to 1.5% for Utah's overall child population

### Healthcare utilization

- Only 16 percent of children received mental health services in 2013
- Only 45 percent of children saw a dentist in 2013 compared to 79 percent of Utah children

### Proper nutrition

- Over 90% of children receive food stamps—90% of K–12 children are enrolled in Free or Reduced Lunch



## ECONOMIC STABILITY:

- Meet nutritional needs of children at home and at school
- Access to mental health care for children and their parents
- Help families understand importance of good oral health

### Work history matters

- Adults have lower levels of educational attainment, which leads to weaker attachment to the labor force and wages insufficient to meet the basic needs of their families
- 74% of adults lack an education beyond high school
- In 2013, the average wage for adults was \$10,701—roughly one fourth of the \$41,064 average wage for all Utahns

### Outcomes for success

- Connect families to education, job training and job search programs

